

Public Notice – Environmental Regulation

Notice of intended action: The State Water Control Board intends to consider drafting a proposal for the amendment of a regulation on water quality. A regulation is a general rule governing people's rights or conduct that is upheld by a state agency.

Regulation name: Water Quality Management Planning Regulation

Purpose of notice: The board is seeking comments through the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) on the intended regulatory action, including but not limited to 1) ideas to assist the board in the development of a proposal 2) the costs and benefits of the alternatives stated in the agency background document or other alternatives and 3) effects of the regulation on farm or forest land preservation. The board is also seeking information on impacts on small businesses.

Public comment period: August 31, 2009 to October 9, 2009

Public meeting: DEQ Central Office, 629 East Main St., Richmond, VA 23219 on October 5, 2009 at 1PM. Unlike a public hearing, which is intended only to receive testimony, this meeting is being held to discuss and exchange ideas and information relative to the development of a proposal.

Public comment stage: Notice of Intended Regulatory Action

Subject matter and intent of proposal: The intent and subject of this rulemaking is to include the concept of regulating flow or other qualities of a point source that cause or contribute to pollutants or pollution downstream of point sources. The DEQ proposes to initiate a limited regulatory action to amend existing definitions or adding new definitions to clearly state the State Water Control Board purpose to correct or reduce the alteration of the physical, chemical or biological properties of any state waters due to flow caused by excessive storm water runoff.

Advisory panel: The Board is using a panel to develop a proposal. The primary function of a panel is to develop recommended regulation amendments for Department consideration through the collaborative approach of regulatory negotiation and consensus. Persons interested in assisting in the development of a proposal should notify the department contact person by the end of the comment period and provide their name, address, phone number, email address and their organization (if any). Multi-applications from a single company, organization, group or other entity count as one for purposes of making the decision specified in the preceding sentence. Notification of the composition of the panel will be sent to all applicants.

How to comment: DEQ accepts written comments by email, fax and postal mail. All written comments must include the full name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ by 5 p.m. on the last day of the comment period. Both oral and written comments are accepted at the public meeting. All testimony, exhibits and documents received are part of the public record.

How a decision is made: After comments have been considered, the board will decide whether to take action on a proposal. If the board decides to consider the regulation, there will be another public comment opportunity, including a public hearing. After these comments have been considered, the board will make the final decision.

To review regulation documents: The agency background document (including purpose, statutory authority, need, substance of planned regulatory changes, alternatives and the family impact statement) is available on the Town Hall web site at www.townhall.virginia.gov and by contacting the DEQ representative named below. There are no regulation amendments available for public comment at this time.

Contact for public comments, document requests and additional information:

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